AMIGA NEWS

AUSTRALASIA

Issue three
January 20 1997

$1.25

The leading source of Australian and international Amiga news

Quikpak makes offer

Quikpak, the US-based manufacturer of the Amiga 4000T series of computers, has confirmed it has made an offer for the assets of Amiga Technologies.

Amiga Technologies' parent company, German computer retail chain Escom GmbH, went into liquidation in June last year.

In a joint statement, Quikpak's CEO, David Ziembicki, and the Director of Business Development of Amiga Computers, Dan Robinson, say they believe negotiations between VIScorp and Amiga Technologie's liquidator, Mr Hembach, have reached a standstill.

"As a creditor of Amiga Technologies, Quikpack has a vested interest in seeing the future of Amiga handled properly," says the statement.

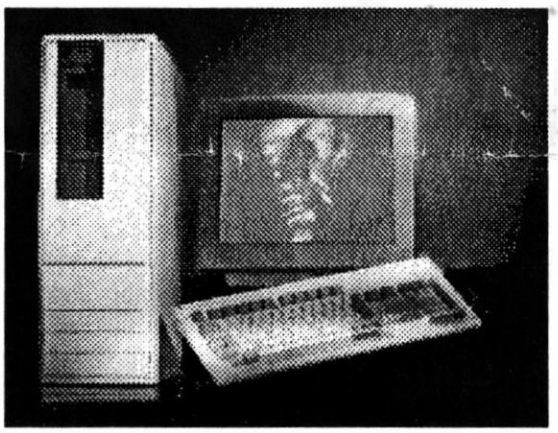
The statement also outlines Quikpak's strategy:

"There is more to the Amiga than a simple set top box ... the A4000 and its successors have a place in the market."

"A model along the lines of the A1200 also can play an important role in the future of the Amiga.

"Products currently under development at QuikPak can bring the Amiga back to the forefront of innovation."

When Amiga Technologies was owned by Escom, QuikPak was selected to manufacture the complete A4000T and components for the A1200. During the collapse of Escom and the subsequent negotiations with VIScorp, QuikPak has continued to manufacture and service Amiga computers. Unofficial estimates put the number of A4000 computers sold by Quikpak at 4000.



Now Quikpak is bidding for the Amiga

QuikPak has also supported the platform by placing ads in the North American publication *Amazing Computing*, creating alliances with Amiga developers and supporters, and developing new products of its own.

And the rest?

Perhaps the most interesting developments in the never-ending Amiga buyout saga are happening behind the scenes.

According to various sources, Quikpak is withholding Amiga Technologies' stock from the liquidator on the grounds that Amiga Technologies owes it money.

As soon as the buyout is complete, we'll post a message on the J P Media Web site.

QUIKPAK

Quikpak
www.amigasupport.com/quikpak

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Published by:

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This copy of *Amiga News* is supplied courtesy of:

Keep the Amiga alive in Australia, support Australian Amiga dealers

Also in this issue

- **Buck resigns**
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- **Computer '96 feature**
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Industry News

Bill Buck resigns

VISCORP

VIScorp
www.vistv.com

Buck is history

Viscorp appears to be undergoing upheavals with CEO Bill Buck recently resigning. Viscorp's European manager, Raquel Velasco, has also resigned.

Velesco's German company, Velasco GmbH, has funded Amiga Technologies' operation during Escom's liquidation proceedings. VIScorp has indicated that it intends to acquire Velasco GmbH shortly.

VIScorp secrets stolen

A federal district court in San Jose, California issued a preliminary injunction on December 4, 1996, against the source of Dallas-based Curtis Mathes Holding Corp's (Curtis Mathes) Uniview interactive television device.

The injunction prohibits further use of proprietary technology developed by VIScorp.

Interactive Video Publishing (IVP), David Serlin, Steve Owens and Kaori Kuwata and "all those in active concert or participation with them" were enjoined from using any of VIScorp's trade secrets or technology and "from manufacturing, shipping, distributing, promoting, licensing or selling" any product incorporating that technology."

Amiga Technologies
www.amiga.de

VIScorp filed a complaint in the Northern District Court of California against the defendants alleging that they misappropriated its trade secrets and technology and licensed the misappropriated technology to Curtis Mathes for its Uniview product. The court recognized that "IVP's deal with Curtis (Mathes) will likely be affected" by its order.

The court found that VIScorp "will probably succeed on the merits of its claim that defendants used improper means to acquire VIScorp software trade secrets, and, therefore have misappropriated VIScorp trade secrets."

No trial date has been set.

Then there were three

Petro Tyschtschenko

We've been watching the staff list on the Amiga Technologies' Web site — the bankruptcy has certainly taken its toll, with AT now operating with three employees: Petro Tyschtschenko, President; Axel Kraemer, Manager Service and Sales Center Braunschweig and Andreas Steep; Service and Sales Center BSW.

On the other hand, it's six months since the Escom bankruptcy, and without a sale, it's amazing that AT is operating at all.

In fact, local Amiga distributor, Megatron, recently put an order for 50 Amiga 1200s.

We also notice that the remaining staff are listed as the "Dream Team" — at least someone has a sale of humour at Amiga Technologies.

Order form

Tick item	Price	Quantity	Total
❑ Six issues of *Amiga News Australasia*	$7.50	_____	____
❑ EuroCD #01 10/96	$29.95	_____	____

Name: .....
Street: .....
Town/suburb: .....
Postcode: .....
E-mail address: .....
Phone number: .....

Send your cheque or money order to:
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3/7 National Ave
Bulli NSW 2516

Money back guarantee
If you are not completely satisfied with your EuroCD, return it within 14 days for a full refund on the purchase price.

The following Amiga users would like to receive a sample copy of Amiga News:

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Hardware News

A4000L and A4060L

It really is a new Amiga

Quikpak has officially announced its new "luggable" Amiga 4000L computer.

The base model contains a 25 MHz 68040 CPU, 2 Mb Chip RAM, 16 Mb Fast RAM, high-resolution LCD display, 2 Gb hard disk, and a 6X CD-ROM (with AsimCDFS preinstalled). Price is US$4495.

A model with a 50 Mhz 86060 CPU, the A4060L, is available for US$4995.

Quikpak is also offering both models bundled with the Newtek Video Toaster and Video Toaster Flyer, a well-known non-linear video editing suite. The 68040 bundle costs US$9495, while the 68060 version costs $9995.

According to the company, these bundles are "the ideal configuration for users who require their computer for field work. When combined with the Newtek Video Toaster and Video Toaster Flyer, it becomes a completely portable non-linear video editing suite."

Quikpak 060 boards

A 060 CPU card for 040-based Amiga 4000T computers is available from Quikpak. Quikpak says the card's 50 MHz 060 CPU perfors at 82 MIPS, increasing the speed of a A4000 Tower four times.

Extra memory can be added to the system via four 72 PIN Simm sockets, for a maximum of 128 megs. An optional SCSI-II WIDE controller is also available. Cost of the accelerator is US$999, or $749 if an operational 040 CPU card is returned.

A version of the accelerator for A3000 and A4000 desktop computers is available for US$999.

A PIOS Amiga clone

German start-up computer company, PIOS, has officially announced its PowerPC-based PIOS ONE computer.

Of interest to Amiga users is that the PIOS ONE will be bundled with pOS, an operating system produced by proDAD that is designed to "build the bridge to the Amiga world."

The machine will also come with Be OS and the Linux operating systems.

PIOS says the system will be shown at CeBIT 97 and will "probably" be available from May/June 1997. Price is expected to be around US$1000 for an entry model.

pOS is also available for conventional Amigas based on 68000 series CPUs, as well as Amigas with PowerPC cards.

Quikpak
www.amigasupport.com/quikpak

Ethernet for Amiga

QuickNet, an Ethernet peer-to-peer network system for the Amiga, is available from Resource Management Force.

RMF says the system achieves high-speed transfer and seamless integration into Amiga DOS.

Features include:

- Autobooting — workstations can boot from another drive connected to the network.
- High-speed data transfer — two stock A4000 computers achieve 800 kb/sec, according to RMF.
- SANA II compatibility, as well as QuickNet's propietory device driver.

Versions

Three versions of QuickNet are available:

- **A500 version:** 64 kb buffer, 16 bit transfers, fits into left-hand expansion, price $US300.
- **A2000, 3000, 4000 version:** 64 kb buffer, 16 bit transfers, fits into Zorro II slot, price US$300.
- **A1200 version:** 128 kb buffer, 32-bit transfer, full DMA design for maximum speed and low CPU overhead, FAST RAM memory expansion socket, co-processor socket, fits trap-door expansion, price US$325 (includes 4 Mb RAM).

What is RMF?

RMF uses Amigas to develop solutions for a range of companies. Some examples include:

- A large screen horse racing game for the Victoria gaming authority running on a very fast, custom enhanced A4000.
- A complete Las Vegas style gaming machine with Amiga-based hardware for a large gaming machine manufacturer in Australia.
- An automated control system for a very large press manufacturing car components.

PIOS
www.pios.de

Resource Management Force

www.mpx.com.au/~normanp/index.html

Ph (02) 9550 4244
Fax (02) 9550 4284

Australian Amiga News

Aust Government encourages piracy

The $350 censorship fee imposed by the Australian government has all but killed the Amiga as a games machine in this country.

Amiga dealers say it is no longer viable to import games from overseas because of the fee. Whereas games distributors of PC software import anywhere from 1000 to 10,000 copies of any particular title, smaller Amiga dealers in the past imported up to 40 copies of a particular title.

This situation is forcing an estimated 10,000 Australian Amiga users to import games directly from overseas or to obtain pirate copies.

Amiga News Australasia thinks this is an outrageous situation. What this means is that:

- The Australian government is indirectly encouraging piracy.
- Small business is being forced to abandon what had been a steady source of revenue.
- Consumer options are being severely limited; people are being forced to move away from perfectly usable computers, for which new games software is being produced overseas.

Amiga News is calling for an excemption of censorship charges for Amiga software. We recommend that a blanket M18+ warning apply automatically to all Amiga game software.

If you're concerned that your consumer choices are being limited, write to your state attorney general, as well the federal attorney general:

Hon. Daryl Williams AM QC, Attorney General and Minister for Justice, Robert Garran Offices, Cnr Kings Ave and National Circuit, BARTON ACT 2600. Also send us a copy.

If someone is interested in organising a campaign, please contact J P Media as soon as possible, and we'll give you as much help as we can.

Capital Punishment

J P Media is still willing to coordinate a shipment of the smash hit Amiga game, *Capital Punishment*. We would ensure all censorship obligations are met.

So far, we have orders for 10 copies — we need another 30 to make it anywhere close to viable. Please e-mail, write, fax or call us as soon as possible if you're interested.

JP MEDIA

We've finally had a new phone line installed to cater exclusively for Amiga News enquires and faxes. The new phone and fax number is (042) 672685. The best time to contact us is in the evenings (6 PM to 9 PM) during weekdays, or during the weekends. Alternatively, leave a message on our answering machine during the day, and we'll contact you later that day, or the next morning.

But no games here

More than 90 games for the Amiga are scheduled for release, according to list compiled by Amiga Flame, a Web page devoted to Amiga games.

Perhaps the most interesting title on the list is *Myst*. Apparently, *Myst*'s publisher, Cyan, is considering whether to release an Amiga version. Japanese company, Sunsoft, is also involved in the decision-making process.

GoldED registration

Trying to work out how to register *GoldED 4.0+*? The program's author, Dietmar Eilert, will only accept a Euro Cheque or direct payment into his bank account. Euro Cheques are not available in Australia, and the price of a direct payment is higher than the registration fee.

Australian *GoldED* user Ron Upton is trying to organise a multiple registration, where a number of *GoldED* users register at the same time to offset the direct payment charges.

"It would only require three or four of us to make the scheme cost effective," says Upton.

Participants in the scheme would need to have a PGP public key, though Upton says he will he will help those unfamiliar with PGP to obtain the software and help with its installation and use.

Ron Upton can be contacted on ronupton@alphalink.com.auAustralian

Megatron to double

Megatron Electronic Industries has just won a major contract with General Instrument Corporation, an international company specialising in interactive delivery of video, voice and data.

"We will be doubling our staff over the coming weeks to 20," says managing director Mr John Barber.

General and business development manager, Bob Farrow, has taken over the strategic direction and growth of the company.

"Our manufacturing and industrial side of the company looks set for a very healthy start in 1997", says Farrow.

Megatron is also the authorised Australian importer of Amiga computer systems. Supporting over 20 dealers around Australia, Megatron says it has a very healthy support and service arm that caters for a number of products, not just Amiga.

Megatron expects that further increases in staff will be necessary in 1997.

Australian Amiga news

Australian Amiga show update

Could the Amiga be on show soon?

Megatron has received enquiries from around the world – including Thailand and the UK – about its planned Amiga show, according to the company's General and New Business Manager, Bob Farrow.

And while many Australian Amiga users have expressed support for the venture, there has been little interest from dealers.

However, Farrow is hopeful that dealers will be willing to participate.

"I'd like dealers to contact me and let me know what they're prepared to do to," says Farrow.

Farrow says he would like to hear from all interested parties about what they would want the show to be.

In regards to the location, Farrow says he is willing to look at places other than Melbourne to stage the show, as long as it doesn't "cost an arm and a leg".

Farrow says Megatron is currently obtaining quotes for a venue, and is also looking for other companies to sponsor the show. Farrow hopes to interest Australia's top Amiga dealers, as well as some of Megatron's industrial clients.

Asked about how many Amigas had been sold in Australia during 1996, Farrow would only say more than 1000, but less than 10,000. Very few were sold to the consumer market. Farrow also hinted at big orders in the pipeline from industrial clients.

Further information: Megatron Electronic Industries, ph (03) 9870 4844, e-mail rfarrow@gui.com.au

Research released

A marketing report released by Exclusive Computer Systems concludes there is a market for the Amiga in Australia, but warns it will disappear if no promotion takes place.

Compiled by Peter Archer in his spare time, *Marketing the Amiga Computer* surveyed 200 computer users during 1996 to find out how they felt about the Amiga.

The study found that the Amiga still led the video industry, with Macintosh a close second, and PC third, though the PC was becoming more popular.

It also found that Amigas were still used for graphics, but usually in conjunction with a PC or Macintosh.

Most people surveyed were not aware that Amiga machines were still available or where they could purchase them from. When asked which computers people would upgrade to, almost all said PCs. Macs and Amigas were rarely mentioned.

Archer makes the following conclusion:

"Contrary to what most people might think, I believe the Amiga is extremely marketable. Furthermore, if marketed correctly, I also believe that Amiga could regain a significant market share."it

"On the other hand, if the Amiga distributor is content to sit tight and let things take their natural course, the Grim Reaper will greet the Amiga with open arms."

A copy of the report was sent to Megatron, the Australian distributor of Amiga computers.

Megatron's General and New Business Manager, Bob Farrow, thought the report was "very good, and very well thought out."

"We're taking it on board," he says.

Exclusive Computer Systems

Ph (049) 36 1213

Opinion

Jason Marianoff, Synapse Computers:
I believe there is definiately a market for Amiga products (although there has been a bit of 'hesitation' by some customers over the past few months). I am considering trying to import a few hardware items from the U.K., and if successful I may try to bring in some software, too.

Your survey has also perhaps inspired me to do my own survey, perhaps asking something so simple as "Have you ever seen a product advertised in a British Amiga magazine that you'd like to buy, but couldn't find a dealer in Australia who could get it for you?"

Anyway, my dedication is still with Amigas, and I shall (time/capital permitting)

Synapse Computers
ph (07) 3899 0980

synapse@powerup.com.au

MEGATRON

Megatron
www.megatron.com.a

Game Review

Uropa 2

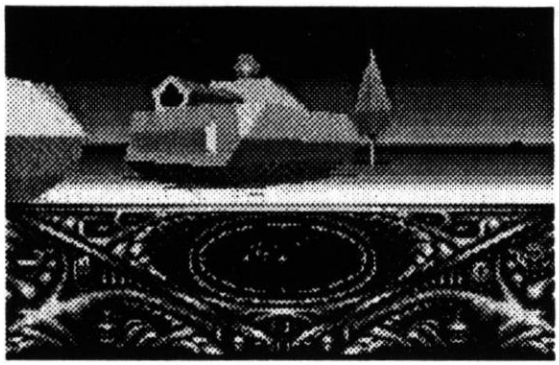
Graphics 94%
"Graphics so real you'll think your there."

Playability 92%
"Truely awsome gameplay."

Sound 93%
"Very realistic sound that adds to the atmosphere."

Addiction 93%
"So good it held my review back."

Lastability 92%
"So much to do and discover you won't be able to leave your computer."



Reviewed by Amiga Flame*

Enemy Kapone forces have come through a wormhole and attacked the colony on the moon called Uropa 2. InterCorp HQ prepares for a counter attack, and you are to help in that counter attack. In the game you are either in control of a droid or a Surface Havar vehicle.

The way each level has been implemented to have it's own unique rooms really adds to the addiction as you want to discover more. In level one you can see a generator spining in action and the communitions room is very nice with it's own holographic view of the device.

The controls are simple enough once you get the hang of them. You use the joystick to move your droid or Surface Havar Vehicle and with the droid you will also need the mouse to access the computers.

At the start you have a sabre sword but then you get a phaser gun. There is of course bombs in the game like the T.E.D. which is a small bomb cable of blowing up doors or any enemy droids in a room. But later you get explosives which when you have the detonator; you are then cable of destroying machinery in rooms. The enemy Kapone force's are no push over and really you need to plan your attack so you take them by suprise.

The explosions are really brilliant with the vehicle blowing up into bits and pieces. The buildings in the game are very detailed and plenty of variety to see. The missions have been well implemented into this type of environment.

The graphics are so detailed and they create a atmosphere that helps you to enjoy the game. There is so much more to discover.

The shareware version of Europa is available from the Austex Software web site and from Aminet. The full version costs AUS$45, or AUS$30 to receive the keyfile via e-mail. Runs on all Amigas, but needs a hard disk.

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Austex Software

ph4227b.jcu.edu.au

PO BOX 48,Kirwan Queensland 4817Australia

Quasar Distribution,

www.ozemail.com.au /~pctask
Ph 03 9887 2411

Software Buyers Service

Ph (052) 431 445

Small-Biz Software

Ph (07) 54919190

Software News

PC-Task 4

The release of PC-Task 4 has been announced by Australian company Quaser Distribution.

With 80486 compatibility, Quaser Distributions says PC-Task 4 is able to run a wide variety of software. The new version also offers Dynamic Compilation which is said to result in major speed increases over previous versions.

Written by Chris Hames, Quaser Distribution claims PC-Task is the fatest PC software emulation available on the Amiga

The following features are included in this release:

- Support for up to 16MB RAM (15MB extended) under MS-DOS.
- High density floppies and CD-ROM support.
- Select from MDA, CGA, EGA, VGA and SVGA (512K-2MB) video modes.
- Support for up to 256 colours on AGA machines.
- Compatible with graphic boards (eg. Cybergraphics, EGS Spectrum, Picasso)
- Run multiple PC-Task processes on the same machine.
- Run MS-DOS applications in a window on a public screen (eg. Workbench).

A Web II plugins

A-Web version 2.1 is now shipping with several updates, according to AmiTrix Development. A-Web packages shipped in the new year include A-Web News II, a full featured newsreader, AWebFTP and an updated version of HTTX.

More updates are being added to the package on a "running basis".

AmitTrix's William Parker says AWeb has helped the company have its most successful year yet.

Local distributor Software Buyers Service.

Easy Ledgers 2

A demonstration copy of *Easy Ledgers 2* arrived in our office recently.

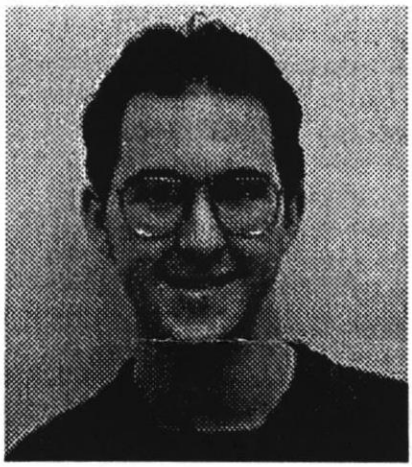
As it is one of the few accounting packages available for the Amiga, we thought it was worth a mention.

The package has a number of modules, including general ledger, debtors ledger, creditors ledger, stock control and price book, and full job costing.

Local distributor Small-Biz Software.

Special Feature

Computer '96 Show



By Jason Compton*

I had the unique opportunity to spend two days at the November Computer '96 (formerly World of Amiga) in Cologne, Germany. I can honestly say that few experiences in my life have been filled with quite so many conflicting emotions.

At the time, I was working for VIScorp as their communications manager for Amiga-related operations. About a week and a half before the show, I received an irresistable offer — I could be the guest of Schatztruhe, the German CD-ROM publisher, as long as I spent a reasonable amount of time at their area.

It was a terrific opportunity and I couldn't help but take it. I arrived in Cologne on Friday morning, made my way to the show. It hit me immediately. I was in, by a factor of two or three, the biggest Amiga show I had seen in my life. I would venture that 75% of the exhibits, at least, were Amiga.

Despite my awe at its size, one of the things I heard most at the show was how previous exhibitions were larger.

My first goal was to get to the Schatztruhe booth. It wasn't too hard, though. Schatztruhe was fairly centrally located, in a square area with a private meeting room. I met with Stefan Ossowski, the proprietor of Schatztruhe, and we sat down and met with a number of his colleagues, including Richard Small of GTI, one of the world's most successful Amiga product distributors. I also finally met Urban Mueller, head honcho of Aminet.

Also hosted at the Schatztruhe booth was GPSoft's Greg Perry and Jonathan Potter of *DirOpus 5* fame. They were demonstrating *DirOpus5* to the crowd, once the machine they were provided with was up and running.

Another Schatztruhe guest was Cloanto's Michael Battilana, who was passing out and selling copies of the new *Personal Paint 7*.

With a lot of running around and meeting people and handling interviews, you might think I didn't get much of a chance to see the show — and you'd largely be right. But I did see quite a bit:

Schatztruhe

I have NEVER seen Amiga sales at this pace before. It was really a sight for doubting eyes. One of the interesting products Schatztruhe had is unique to the German market — *DirOpus 5.5* on CD-ROM, with online manual only. It's only in German, but GPSoft is considering the product in English for other markets based on the success of the German version.

Amiga Report www.livewire.com.au /amiga/cucug/ar/ar.html

Phase5

Phase5 had a large walled-in meeting area where a number of hired well-dressed assistants controlled entrance and looked professional. The demonstration of Phase5's Power-PC cards for the Amiga, the PowerUP cards, was a mixed bag. The two pieces of software they had to show (a Mandelbrot generator and a partial port of the 3D software Reflections) definitely showed the PPC to be faster than the 060, by an awful lot.

Village Tronic

With a rotating Amiga and Mac cube, VT was having no trouble attracting attention. And they had no trouble keeping it with the Picasso IV. A terrific looking card, the P-IV was running MPEG CDs on the Workbench and putting up some great displays.

Amiga personalities

Later in the day, I got to meet a group of journalistic colleagues — Ben Vost, Assistant Editor of Amiga Format was the first. Later, I met Mat Bettinson, Technical Editor of CU Amiga. Ben and I did a short video interview, courtesy of the impromptu camera work of Greg Perry. If you ever meet Greg Perry, offer him a coffee and cognac, heavy on the cognac.

Dr. Peter Kittel was on hand for PIOS, and it was great to meet him and shake his hand for the first time.

Getting to meet Heinz Wrobel and Angela Schmidt was exciting as well.

Heinz, best known lately for his work for AT on AmigaOS, and Angela, famous for Meting Pearls, were often found at the Schatztruhe area. Anybody who knows Angela Schmidt knows she loves to climb things.

She was determined to climb the 10-foot wall around the Schatztruhe booth with only thin plastic rods as supports. Thankfully, Heinz, Stefan and I were able to talk her out of it.

I know I heard a floorscrubber joke somewhere, but I forget what the context was.

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Letters

Dear Sir,
Comprepair is one of the few dedicated Amiga peripheral, software and accessory wholesalers left in Australia, and we are continuing to support the Amiga, and are looking for new software and hardware products all the time.

We currently distribute for the following companies/brand names (I say brand names, as some of the companies have merged or have moved on to that abortion called PC)

- **DKB**: DKB 1202 and Cobra Accelerators and RAM expansion for A1200; Rapidfire and Spitfire SCSI Controllers for A2000/A3000/A4000; Ferret SCSI expansion for Cobra boards; Wildfire 68060 for A2000 with RAM, SCSI fast, Ethernet and soon 24-bit graphics card directly onto the 060 bus; DKB 3128 and 2632 RAM expansion for A2500/A2630/A3000/ A4000; Megachip 2 Mb chip RAM for A500/A2000.
- **Axalen:** Green mouse 320 DPI Amiga mouse with pad; Hyper mouse II 400 DPI mouse with pad; brush mouse, pen shape sumper small with pad; joystick pistol grip.
- **ProDAD:** Clarissa V3.0; Monument Designer V2.0; Animage; Adorage 2.5, and more coming soon.
- **Roctec**: Rocgen plus.
- **Golden Image**: Hand scanners; 2 Mb PCMCIA; 880 kb floppy drives.

Many overseas suppliers are leaving the Amiga in droves, there are now only two Amiga mouse manufacturers in Taiwan, down from 12 18 months ago, and latest indications are that Alfa Data will pull the plug on Amiga early in 1997. We need to obtain more suppliers to increase our range, and need the help of Amiga users to do this.

We want to improve our range, and if your readers can not find a product here, and can give us details of the manufacturers, with a fax number, we will be pleased to attempt to contact them to set up distribution in Australia. Our commitment sees us dealing with over 30 Amiga dealers in Australia, and carrying over $70,000 of stock at any one time. But if we are to expand and help the Amiga grow, we need the support of Amiga owners.

Kindest regards
Vince Morton

We're surprised that you carry so many Amiga products, and we encourage you, and other distributors to help fill up our news pages with news about the great products you're distributing.

Oh, and we especially like the bit about the abortion.

Comprerpair

Ph 03 9326 0133

JP MEDIA

We want to tell the Amiga world your Amiga news! Come on, don't keep it to yourself.
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Editorial

After three issues it's clear to us there is a market for an Amiga publication in Australi..

We have good reason to believe that many Amiga users will stick with their machines until at least the end of the year, at which point they will look at upgrading to a new machine. Many have told us they will stick with the Amiga if there is a well-priced Amiga option available.

We have also announced a subscription fee for Amiga news; $7.50 for six issues or $1.25 per issue. All current promotions will continue until they expire.

There will be no advertising in *Amiga News*. Instead, we plan to launch another newletter called *Amiga Trader Australasia. Amiga Trader* will be sent to all Amiga users on the J P Media mailing list, irrespective of whether they subscribe to *Amiga News* or not. Contact us if you're interested in advertising.

In next issue, we'll be publishing the *Australian Amiga Retailer and Distributor Survey*, the work of Guy Nathan, who over three months compiled a directory of Australian Amiga companies and the products they distribute. Guy's work is yet another fine example of the dedication of Australian Amiga users.

John Pospisil
J P Media

Letters

Dear Editor,
I've received my first copy of *Amiga News*. I was delighted to find that the emphasis was on real information.

This magazine will be of special interest to Amiga users who do not have access to the Internet.

My hope is that flashy graphics and glossy paper do not creep into the publication.

Now that *ACAR* is gone, there is a gap in the market for a local Amiga magazine. By keeping *Amiga News* simple, informative regarding events and Amiga-related products, low in price and a vehicle for exchange of ideas, local information and help, it should be possible to develop a large readership

Ron Upton
via Internet

Thanks for your encouragement. Rest assured we're committed to publishing a newsletter that encapsulates all the principles you've mentioned.